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CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

DAILY 49ER

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Zombies to invade campus

The tag game is part of the engineering deptartment's eWeek.

By Jason Clark
Staff Writer

Students beware — there will be zombies on campus next week.

Starting Feb. 20, engineering students participating in the department's eWeek 2012 will play a tag game called Zombies vs. Humans, which is based around the scenario of a zombie apocalypse.

According to the event's web page, all players begin as humans, and one is randomly chosen to be the "Original Zombie." The Original Zombie tags human players and turns them into zombies. Those zombies then have to tag at least one human every 48 hours, or else they will starve and get kicked out of the game. A side wins when either all zombies are starved or all humans have become zombies.

"It sounds fun and we're hoping it catches on," said Brian Iorga, engineering major and Zombies vs. Humans participant.

The event will be taking place all week and will be played all over campus. There are, however, safe zones where the game is suspended. No professor wants a zombie feeding on a human in the middle of lecture.

Pi Tau Sigma is sponsoring the event and needs a few more participants.

"So far we have 50 students signed up, hoping to get 100-150 by the end of the week," Pi Tau Sigma president Natalie Katzka said.

Those interested in playing can go to the fraternity's office in Vivian Engineering Center room 219C.

Student immigrates to U.S., changes career path

By Hae Jin Lee
Contributing Writer

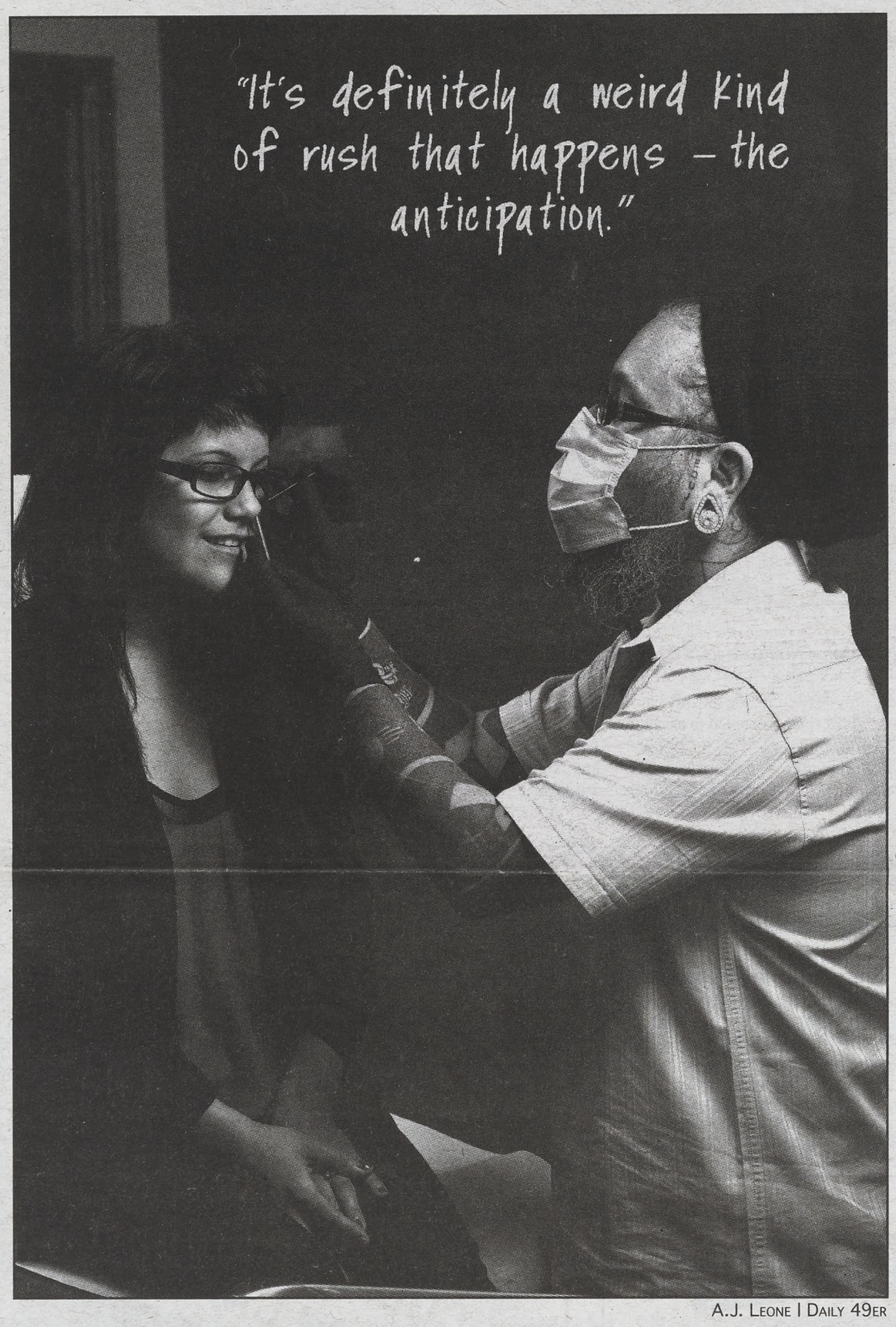
After working as a technician at Siemens, an international information technology company headquartered in Munich. Hee Dong Na wanted a challenge, took a risk and decided to change his career path completely.

Na is 31-years-old and a graduate student at Cal State Long Beach.

"Once, I dreamed about being a pharmacist," Na said. "Due to my personal reason, I changed my path to engineering."

Even before Na immigrated to the U.S., he was pursuing engineering.

Students | Page 2



A.J. Leone | Daily 49er

Sanitation is critical when performing body piercings. Local body piercer John Johnson, right, considers safety and cleanliness even when performing the most basic ear lobe piercings.

Proximal piercing

The popularity of piercings among college students provides an incentive to open a shop near CSULB.

By Brianne Schaer
News Editor

The single moment of waiting for a needle to penetrate the skin provides enough exhilaration to keep people coming back for more. In just a few seconds, a bare section of skin can be decorated with a variety of different types of jewelry.

Body piercing is an increasingly popular trend, particularly among college students, and local body piercer John Johnson, is taking note.

After working at a shop in downtown Long Beach for 12 years, Johnson is opening his own studio within walking distance of Cal State Long Beach. He said the poor visibility, lack of parking downtown and distance from the college student clientele contributed to his decision to relocate.

"I was really between a rock and a hard place," Johnson said. "It was going to be next to impossible to see my piercing career thrive in that location. I had lots of great clients, but I'd never be able to grow my personal business."

Nose piercings are the most popular requests, Johnson said. Earlobes and navels follow in terms of popularity.

"People are finally learning that there are safer and more practical ways of getting their basic earlobe piercings, rather than going to the mall," he said.

It is crucial to research the level of sanitation and experience a piercer has before deciding to get a piercing done.

Johnson's favorite piercings to do are the rook, conch and tragus, all three of which are located in the inner ear.

"I definitely enjoy seeing people wear those piercings," he said. "But from a technical aspect, I enjoy doing the work. They're not over-complicated or high risk; however, it does require a little bit of extra brain power and technical know-how to place jewelry well and offer people comfortable piercings."

Eastyn Cazin, senior German major, has 19 piercings,

Piercing | Page 2

Boutique owner's passion for fashion thrives in Retro Row

Blu Button is located in the Retro Row area of Long Beach, maintains distinct vibe, personality.

By Sasha Milena
Assistant City Editor

Esther Kim

Cal State Long Beach student and junior fashion merchandising and design major Esther Kim was strolling along the Fourth Street Retro Row area in Long Beach when she spotted a dangling sign inside a vacant retail space that said "For Rent."

"It was a golden opportunity that I could not pass by," Kim said.

Kim did not have a plan, but she always knew she wanted to own a business. Her boutique clothing store, Blu Button, combines her dream of business ownership and her passion for fashion.

"My passion always lied in fashion ... always in clothing, shoes and dressing up," Kim said.

Kim balances a full-time courseload at CSULB and runs her store by taking classes early in the morning before the store opens. She said it can be a challenge, but attending school full-time has been her choice and she does her best to manage her time effectively.

Kim said the fashion-merchandising program has helped tremendously since she opened the store in October 2010.

"Every semester I learn so much and I am so grateful I can apply it directly to my business," Kim said.

Professors and instructors in the fashion-merchandising program have been supportive and helpful during her business ownership learning process and she said she often goes to them for advice. Kim also receives assistance from her two CSULB student interns.

"This store and style is a reflection of myself," Kim said.

The women's clothing and accessory store's shelves and hangers are stocked with soothing colors, soft fabrics and vintage-inspired patterns. Kim likes to seek out new designs and brings in new brands every season.

Blu Button's location is a perfect fit

Blu Button | Page 3

Students

Continued from Page 1

When his family decided to move, he dropped out of college.

Between 2000 and 2002, Na worked on applying to colleges. In 2002, he attended the University of California, Los Angeles, majoring in biochemistry. Na said he chose biochemistry as a major since he thought the best way to survive in America is to be a specialize. His closest friend suggested the change to become a pharmacist.

After he graduated from UCLA, he got a job at Siemens. He worked as a technician at a lab and did research and development.

However, the branch that was located in California, where he worked, relocated to England. It was then that Na decided to question his career path.

"Scientist is the highest position that a researcher could reach," he said.

As a scientist, Na could only reach a certain level of income. Na's friends, who were already engineers, encouraged him to make the switch.

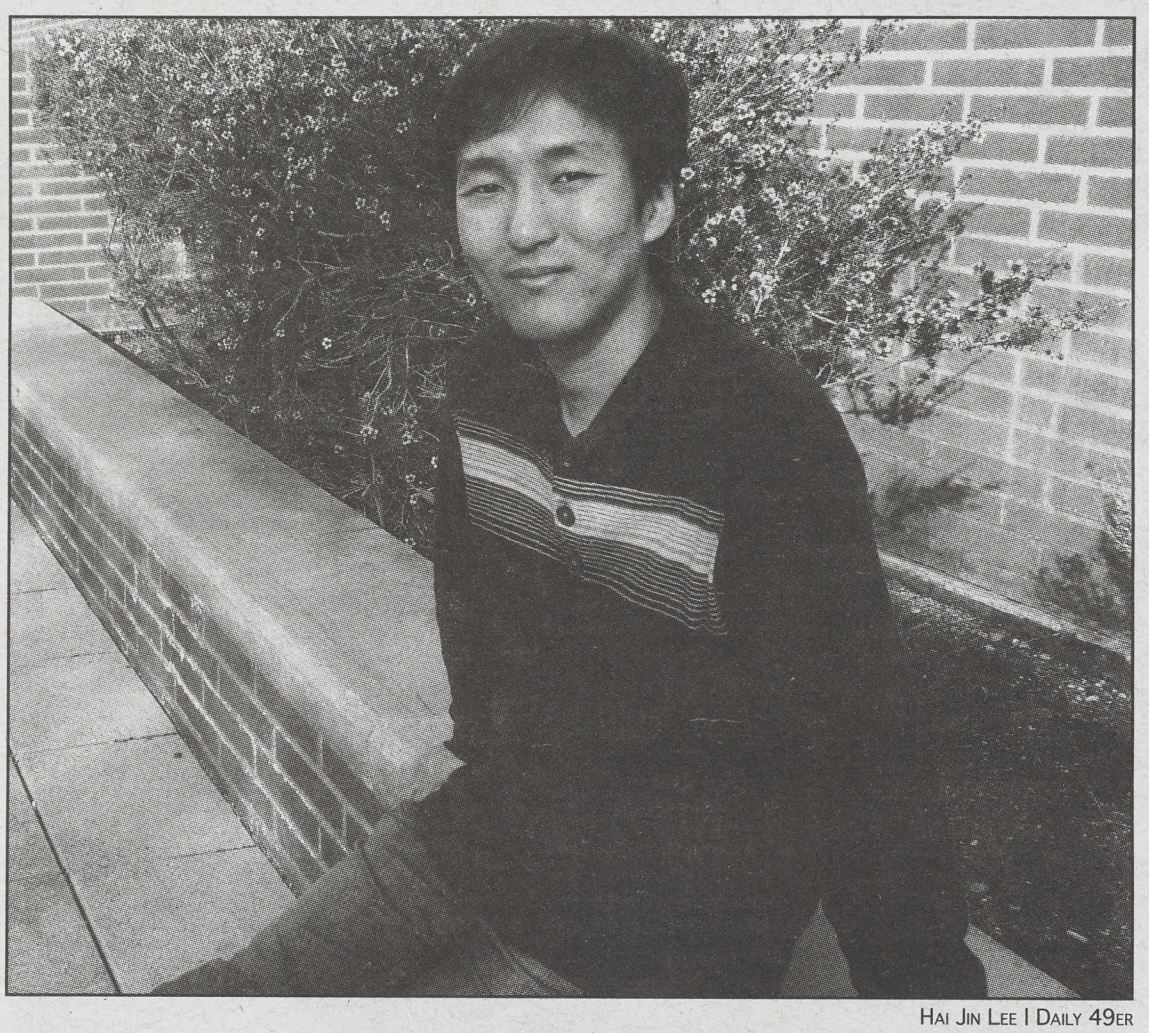
"My friends, who are working at engineering companies, actually suggested to me to study engineering again," Na said. "Since I have seen how to succeed in that field, I decided to challenge myself again."

Na originally applied to graduate school at UCLA and CSULB but felt encouraged when he heard positive responses from counselors at CSULB.

"A friend who suggested to me to go study engineering was attending CSULB at that time," Na said. "So I called a counselor at this school and they only gave me the positive answers. That time, I decided to apply to this college."

From the time he decided to immigrate to the U.S., Na risked everything to choose a better life and to succeed. Now, he has a deep knowledge of both fields, biochemistry and engineering, and is planning to graduate in spring 2013.

"I am still searching my aptitude for my future job," Na said. "I am thinking of environmental engineering or working in chemistry reaction, but we will see."



Hai Jin Lee | Daily 49er

Hee Dong Na has decided to come back to school after an unfulfilling real-world career experience.

Piercing

Continued from Page 1

most of them in her ears. She said she likes the way her piercings look as well as the process of getting pierced.

"It's definitely a weird kind of rush that happens — the anticipation," she said.

She said that most people don't initially notice she has so many piercings, mainly because many of them are not visible.

"They're more of a personal thing," Cazin said. "They're not a statement for society. I don't feel a need to broadcast it out there since they're not a part of my personality, just my personal style."

An interest in counterculture is one reason people may be more apt to getting tattoos and piercings, Cazin said.

"A lot of it has to do with our age," she said. "As you get older, you meet less restrictions from your family."

Johnson hopes to increase his piercing and jewelry sales now that he is opening a new shop in a better location.

"Body piercings and tattoos are things that have been done throughout the entire history of humanity," Johnson said. "That's always been done so that's never going to stop."

Johnson's new shop, New Flower Studio, was named after the English translation of the capital city of Ethiopia, Addis Ababa.

The shop will open on Feb. 29 and is located at the corner of Studebaker Road and Anaheim Road and will feature multiple piercing rooms, free jewelry cleaning and stamp cards in which frequent customers can earn free jewelry.

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Aspiring actors willing to 'die trying'

Students take advantage of living so close to LA, overcome setbacks.

By Alfred Pallarca
Staff Writer

Diego Parada spent more than $500 on a talent agency website that promised him headshots for his portfolio, access to numerous castings, auditions and plenty of other opportunities. Parada wasn't aware that numerous other websites offered the same promotion for less than a fourth of what he paid for.

Bogus talent websites like the one Parada encountered are just some of the obstacles that set back students aspiring to break into the entertainment industry. With the industry's glamorous and sensationalized façade, many don't realize the tough road and heartaches ahead of every aspiring actor.

Parada, a Cal State Long Beach senior theatre arts major and film minor, moved from Tijuana, Mexico to Long Beach to pursue a career as an actor.

"I've always wanted to act," Parada said. "It's not the lifestyle that attracted me to the industry. It is just something that I have passion for and want to do."

He is one of many students that left their small hometown and moved to Southern California to follow their big dreams.

Eriko Azuna, a senior theatre arts major, moved to Long Beach from Tokyo to pursue her dream of becoming an actress and a director.

"Ever since I participated in a play when I was in fourth grade, I knew acting is something that I want to do," Azuna said.

Another theatre arts major, Jeannette Deutsch, moved to Long Beach from Cupertino, Calif. to further her education in the arts and make it as an actress in theatre.

"Being far away from your parents and hometown is tough, but you just have to do it," Deutsch said. "LA is where all the jobs in the entertainment industry are at."

Though Azuna and Deutsch have had close encounters with fake websites and agencies that are "just too good to be true," they tried their best to stay away from them.

"You have to be aware and do your research," Deutsch said.

Besides staying away from agencies and websites that have scams, another obstacle that these aspiring actors face is getting their big break.

"Anyone can get an audition, but nailing that one role that will start your career is the challenge," Azuna said.

All three aspiring actors haven't gotten their breakthrough role just yet, but they are perfecting their skills and talent by beginning in a few theatre productions on and off campus.

Azuna has directed a few plays on campus and Parada is starting his own web series titled "Death as We Know It" to get his name and talent noticed.

"In this industry, if you want a job, sometimes you have to make your own," Parada said.

With all these obstacles in their paths, all three students are hopeful that they will one day make it. Pursuing a career in a different industry is not an option to them.

"I have no plan B," Azuna said. "You have to stick to your plan A or else you will tend to slack off and fall behind."

For Deutsch, she is planning on staying in the industry as long as she can.

"I kind of have to have tunnel vision," Deutsch said. "I have a goal, and I have plenty of time to achieve it."

Parada's passion for the art is what's keeping him going. Though he was ripped-off a few hundred bucks, he's taking it as a positive learning experience.

"I don't want to do anything else," Parada said. "I'm going to die trying."

Correction: The Feb. 15 article "Candidates try to woo young voters" incorrectly referenced California's open primary law. It does not apply to presidential elections.

Elijah McHenry | Daily 49er

Blu Button is located on 2112 4th St. Long Beach, Calif.

Blu Button

Continued from Page 1

for Retro Row, since the businesses are either boutique stores or restaurants that employ a distinct personality and vibe.

There are vintage, thrift furniture and clothing stores, along with barbershops, salons, restaurants and cafes.

The young business owner said she loves the area and appreciates having a business in such a diverse city.

Kim plans on bringing in hand-selected vintage clothing and accessories to add to her boutique's niche vibe.

"I'm a huge fan of vintage and I'm always on the lookout for vintage items," Kim said.

She finds that a lot of her customers appreciate vintage clothing, but do not always want to hunt them down on their own. Kim wants to have a mixture of new and vintage items, while maintaining the same feel inside the store.

She also plans to carry items from local artisans who make their own jewelry, soaps and screen-printed t-shirts.

Kim said she gives students a 10 percent discount on all items in her store because she knows what it's like to be a student on a budget.

Congress works toward payroll tax cut

WASHINGTON - Congress is calmly inching toward approving a payroll tax cut and other help for the economy without the bitter rancor that's colored economic debates since President Barack Obama took office three years ago.

Lawmakers are widely expected to give bipartisan approval this week to extending the Social Security payroll tax cut, now scheduled to end Feb. 29, through the end of the year.

They're also likely to extend benefits for the long-term unemployed and to stave off a huge planned cut in Medicare payments to physicians.

All this is being done without the down-to-the-wire brinksmanship that characterized other Obama-era budget battles. This fresh outburst of comity was sparked by today's unpredictable politics and economics in an election year.

"The public wants action, and the economy needs help," said Darrell West, director of governance studies at the Brookings Institution, a center-left research group.

All 435 seats in the House of Representatives, as well as 33 in the Senate, are up for election this fall. Congress' approval ratings are dismal, and polling shows voters blame both parties for inertia in Washington. Few incumbents want to face voters who have suddenly found their paychecks have shrunk because Congress let the wage tax break expire.

"Maybe this will get our approval rating back to double digits," said Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz.

More than 160 million workers pay Social Security tax on up to $110,100 of their wages. The rate, now 4.2 percent, is scheduled to return to 6.2 percent next month unless the break is extended. The extension should save the average worker, earning $50,000 a year, about $20 per week.

At a time when the economy remains fragile, a reduction in workers' paychecks could be harmful, economists say.

-David Lightman, MCT

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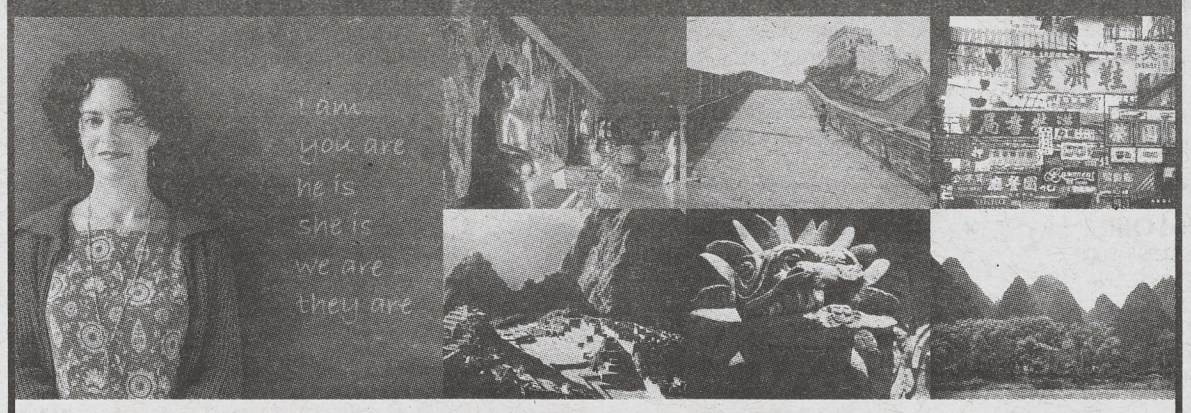

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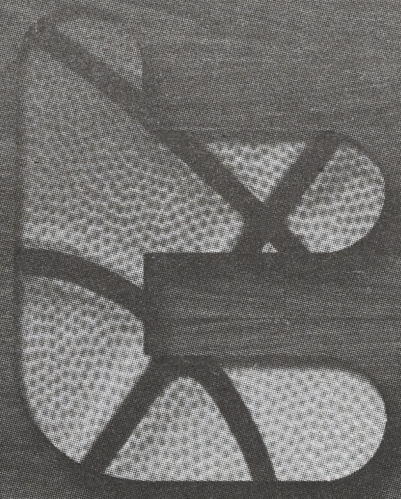

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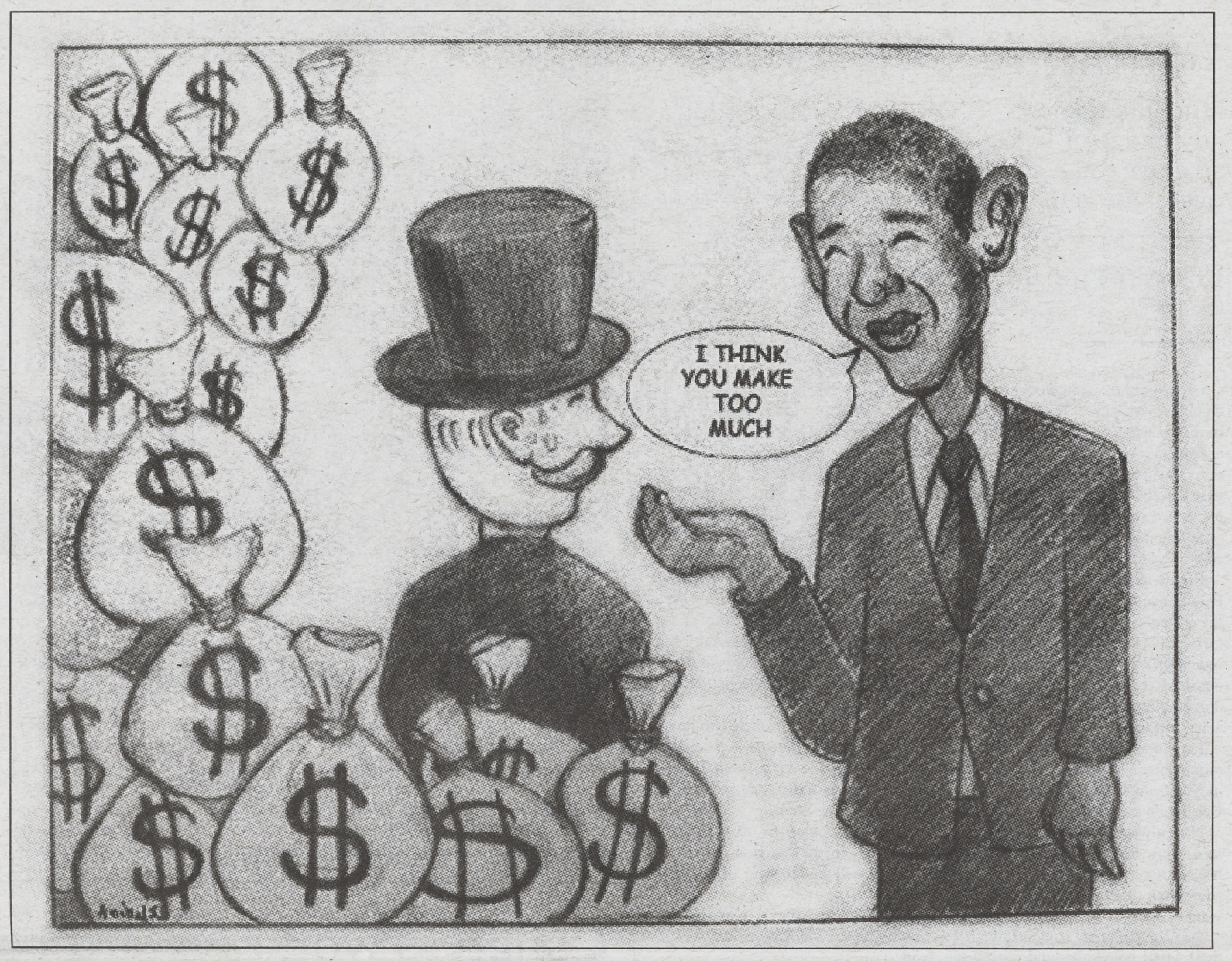
Obama aims to please by protecting middle-class



President Barack Obama unveiled his final federal budget before his reelection campaign and to no surprise it was met with both supporters and critics.

Our View

The new budget is heavily built towards fulfilling left-wing priorities, but also prolongs reducing our nation's debt.

The budget calls for a $350 billion stimulus to keep payroll taxes roughly the same, create more jobs within our country, strengthen our education and rebuild some of our crumbling infrastructure. To combat the extra spending, a small cut will be made to federally funded health care; however most will come from taxing the wealthy.

In Obama's new budget, taxes on the rich and corporations will be raised to $2 trillion over the next decade. Obama is also pushing for lawmakers to rewrite our tax code so millionaires would have to pay 30 percent of their yearly income in taxes to the Internal Revenue Service. Also, Obama wants to eliminate the alternative minimum tax, which affects the middle-class.

It's apparent that Obama is very concerned with the middle-class, as he should be. The middle-class is the foundation to our nation and as we move towards the end of the recession the affects are still lingering today.

However, in order for the middle-class to recover, they need tax relief and jobs. This takes up a big chunk of federal spending, which will be made up by taxing the wealthy. However, it is still impossible to make enough cuts to reduce our national debt. Thus, the situation becomes a question of whether rebuilding the middle-class is more of a priority than paying off our debt.

But, Obama believes that sitting on our debt for a few years is not a problem. Obama said in a message to Congress, "reining in our deficits is not an end in itself."

Even though our spending over the next couple of years will not reduce the deficit, as long as it goes toward building a foundation for the economy and creating jobs, it is necessary. The right-wing "you make it on your own" view on economics has widened the gap between the wealthy and the poor. If our country can refill that gap with a stronger middle-class then we can turn our focus towards fixing the deficit.

One thing the new budget neglects to change is Social Security. In the future Social Security will become the major source of U.S. borrowing. Especially with the baby-boomers beginning to retire, a major amount of our budget will go towards their Social Security checks. What we pay towards Social Security in the future will weigh down us soon-to-be graduates in our first jobs.

Obama's new budget has its flaws but its main goal is to rejuvenate our economy first. It is also easy to see that Obama is aiming to please when it comes to his reelection this year. By keeping the hope of recovery alive for the middle-class and putting off addressing the Social Security debacle, Obama will keep many in his camp. However, Obama cannot expect more than money from the wealthy.

Americans should be more knowledgeable on world affairs

Rebecca Eisenberg

We live in a land of many luxuries. And although we are consistently warned and informed of the extreme debt crisis demolishing our economy, we are blessed with gems such as vast personal space and opportunities for our future. I did not realize how truly magnificent this country was until I was absent from it for three months while I explored Southeast Asia.

While spending the few months abroad, I really missed the United States. I missed the freedoms that include expressing yourself freely, widely, and loudly. In China I wore a suggestive shirt promoting breast cancer awareness and was just short of shunned by every onlooker I walked past. Needless to say, I didn't wear that shirt again.

And although my love for my country grew even more profound, at the same time, I started to learn the stereotypes of an American person. I learned that foreigners thought of us as mainly arrogant, ignorant, and stupid. It was not in my best interests when I admitted I was unaware that they spoke Cantonese in Hong Kong, not Mandarin. So, here I am to share a blip of information to hopefully broaden your worldview a bit more, specifically of Greece.

Our economy is certainly not the only one in trouble. In Athens recently, Aris Hadjigeorgiou explained to a New York Times journalist that he and his colleagues have not received payment in four months, while the newspaper files for bankruptcy.

"A quarter of all Greek companies have gone out of business since 2009, and half of all small businesses in the country say they are unable to meet payroll," explains Russell Shorto of the New York Times. Many Greek families are living with literally nothing, no savings whatsoever.

Shorto comments that it is not rare to see individuals looking through the garbage for food. A book entitled "Starvation Recipes" has become very popular.

On Shorto's adventure to Greece, he also spent time with Paul Evmorfidis, who explained, "As the Greek government adds new taxes and surcharges onto its citizens, they respond with protest."

"The standard short answer to how Greece got into its financial mess is that it borrowed too much and spent unwisely," Shorto explicates.

Although, this is a tad short of what actually happened, it is assumed that location, along with Greek bureaucracy, combine to form an economic bomb leading to extreme poverty.

Speaking with my American friends in Asia, one jokingly interjected that we didn't need to know anything about other cultures because "we have everything back home."

And we do. Our country is full of comforts and lavishness that unfortunately, the rest of the world does not share. It is difficult to focus our attention elsewhere when we are a dominant society, which plays into continually practicing ethnocentrism. That is bad. In order to live up to our expectations of becoming well-rounded, educated, intelligent, and fair individuals, we must be knowledgeable about the entire world, not just our own.

Rebecca Eisenberg is a senior philosophy major and a contributing writer for the Daily 49er.

Daily 49er

Zien Halwani
Editor in Chief
eicd49er@gmail.com
(562) 985-7998

Caitlin O'Connor
Managing Editor
managingd49er@gmail.com
(562) 985-8000

Editorial Office
Phone (562) 985-8000
Fax (562) 985-7994
1250 Bellflower Blvd., SSPA 004B
Long Beach, CA
90840-4601

Display Advertising
Beverly Munson
(562) 985-5736

Advertising Design
Tracy Parra
(562) 985-5736

Business Office
Phone (562) 985-8001
Fax (562) 985-1740
1250 Bellflower Blvd., SSPA 010B
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90840-4601

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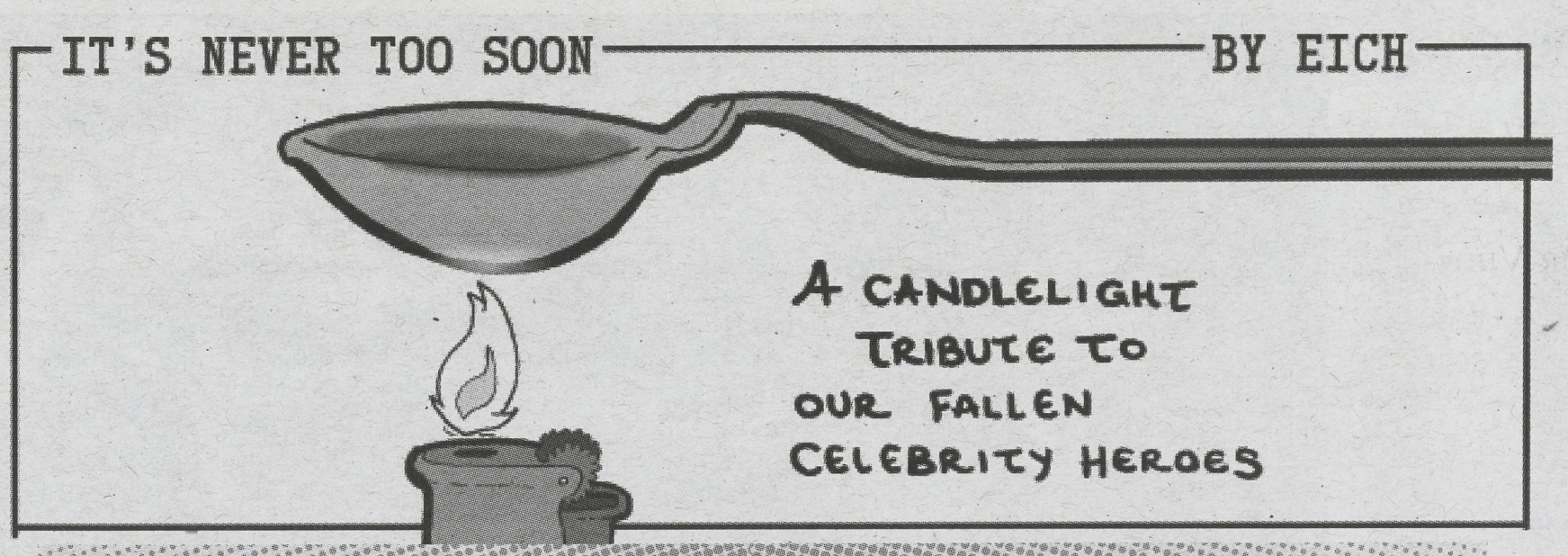
CARTOONS

OpinionsD49er@gmail.com www.Daily49er.com Thursday, February 16, 2012



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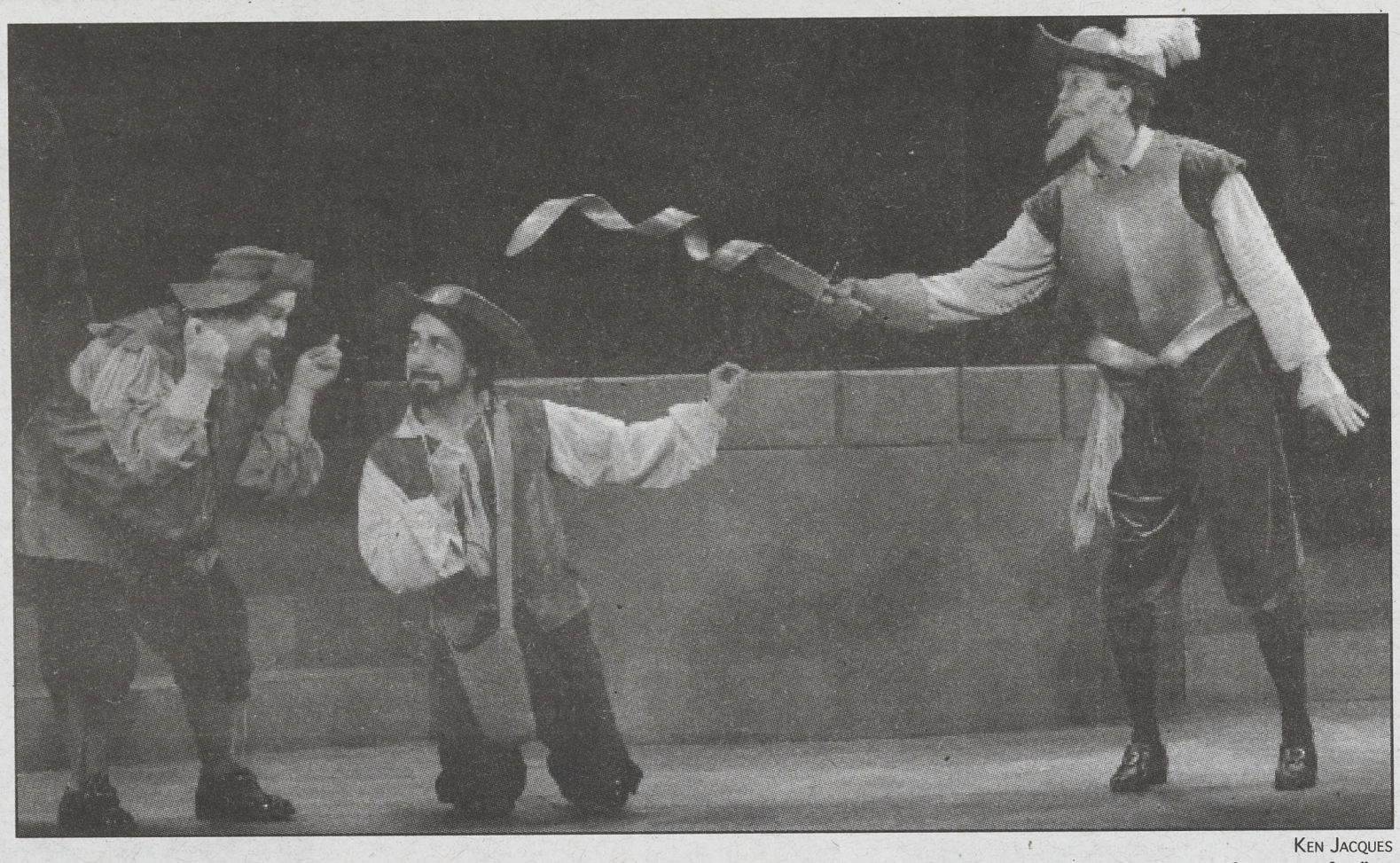
'Man of La Mancha' 'enthralls,' audiences

The MTW musical has a great cast and storyline.

By Jackie Rosas
Contributing Writer



Ken Jacques

Justin Robertson as Sancho Panza, Steven Glaudini as The Barber and Davis Gaines as Don Quixote perform in "Man of La Mancha."

Filled with enthusiasm, slapstick comedy and high energy routines, Musical Theater West's "Man of La Mancha" opened last weekend at The Carpenter Performing Arts Center to sold out shows.

This Tony award-winning musical takes place in a 1594 prison cell during the Spanish Inquisition. The plot begins as Miguel de Cervantes, the protagonist, is thrown into prison and put on trial by other prisoners to save his personal belongings, including a manuscript to a novel. Through his defense, he re-enacts some of the hilarious misadventures of the manuscript's hero, Don Quixote de La Mancha, in order to protect it from being destroyed.

The story is a play within a play as Cervantes (Davis Gaines) becomes Alonso Quijana, an old educated man who goes mad and renames himself Don Quixote, a knight-errant who along with his faithful manservant, Sancho (Justin Robertson) chases "the quest" and "the impossible dream." Quixote lives in a complete fantasy world filled with ogres, knights and castles, while Sancho and the rest of the cast is grounded in reality. Yet the dynamic between the two men makes the audience question where true reality lies.

Although a bit confusing at first, the play comes alive when Cervantes becomes Don Quixote during the first number "Man of La Mancha (I, Don Quixote)." Gaines gives a continuously powerful performance throughout the show, completely enrapturing the audience with his incredible voice. As Don Quixote lures his fellow prisoners into his story, the audience is also completely pulled into his imagined world.

As Don Quixote, Gaines is wonderfully enthusiastic and optimistic which creates a character that completely wins over the audience. Throughout the play, the audience is aware that the inn is not a castle and Aldonza is an ugly kitchen maid and not a fair maiden. However, Gaines' performance makes one believe in his reality while rejecting the actual one. His passionate beliefs and wide operatic vocal range totally engross the audience.

The differences between Quixote's imagination and the reality are highlighted through the hilarious narrations and dialogue between the characters. Especially through his interactions with his love interest Aldonza, or Dulcinea to Quixote, (Lesli Margherita0. Her performance as the tough and sarcastic, yet also caring Aldonza matches the other leads in talent. Her powerful renditions of her solos, "What does he want of me?" and "Aldonza" are easily met with enduring applause from the audience.

Aldonza is the antithesis to Don Quixote as she is the only character who questions and rejects his wild fantasy. The chemistry between Gaines and Margherita is fantastic; the two opposites slowly come together as Aldonza is seduced into Quixote's fantasy world. Margherita's Aldonza is masculine, rough and skeptical. However, throughout the musical, the audience can track her transformation into her true core as a fragile, vulnerable and abused woman.

Also matching the leads in high vocal quality are the ensemble characters. The muleteers who are at the inn are all strong singers whose malicious and disgusting characters enhance the feminine characteristics of Aldonza.

Some other standout performances include Karenssa Legear as Antonia, Quijana's niece, and Damon Kirsche as her sinister fiancé Dr. Carrasco. These two characters participate in two scene-stealing numbers in the show. Legear's high soprano vocals enchant the audience in "I'm only thinking of him," creating a sweet, sensitive characteristic for the loving niece. Kirsches' performance as the Knight of the Mirrors does the complete opposite in frightening the audience and Don Quixote.

Overall, this production of this musical classic enthralls and captures the audience's attention with incredible vocal quality from the entire cast, hilarious dialogue and powerful performances that personify the theme of dreaming the impossible dream.

"Man of La Mancha" runs through Feb. 26. in the Carpenter Performing Arts Center. Performances are Thursdays and Fridays at 8 p.m.; Saturdays at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; and Sundays at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Ticket prices start at $20. For more information or to buy tickets, visit **musical.org.**

The Vespertines aim to be unique

The group combines a variety of genres in their music.

By Justine Goldsmith
Contributing Writer

Rock 'n' roll took another explosive leap as the Vespertines lit up the stage of Harvelle's on Monday evening, pushing their musical limits, while refusing to commit to one particular genre.

Like a good punch to the gut, the Vespertines sound is an eclectic blend that includes rock 'n' roll. Their music combines an array of explosive sounds that emits nothing short of pure and vigorous melodious magic.

Kyle Cavaness (bass) and Chris Walker (drums) began as the first two original members of the Vespertines, forming nearly five years ago after playing in a blues band together. Walker and Cavaness added Alex Kater (guitar), Cal State Long Beach philosophy major, and Vanessa Acosta (vocals) to complete the harmonious square.

On Monday, the band commanded the stage with high-energy mechanics and a powerful blend of reggae, blues and energetic rock and roll that kept the audience enthralled.

When choosing a genre, a question that most bands are generally quick to describe, the Vespertines are slow to act and curious themselves to discover what category their assorted sound can permanently tie them into.

"We play really good rock music," Cavaness sarcastically said.

"We're definitely rock heavy, not pop," Acosta added.

With a quick pace, each member seemed perfectly-suited to maintain the rhythm of each song. They supported Acosta as she jolted about the stage, whipping her hair violently. Acosta also added a few trumpet solos during the musical bridge, alluding to that rich reggae undertone. With a voice similar to Gwen Stefani's and Beth Gibbon's from Portishead, Acosta's voice is vibrantly rich in tone and just as forceful as the instruments that stand beside her.

The Daily 49er sat down with the Vespertines to understand the difficulties of creating such a powerful musical team, and learn what they feel sets them apart from all the others.

Daily 49er: Have you ever had any weird incidences that occurred while playing a show?

Chris Walker: We were playing the UC Irvine art exhibit and a girl in a bikini had painted her whole body blue and was just walking around the crowd. It was right around the time the movie "Avatar" had come out, and she just came out of nowhere and started dancing, with like no expression at all. It was pretty weird.

Daily 49er: If you guys could be transported to another decade, which decade do you feel would do the most justice to your music?

Vanessa Acosta: If we go back in time, we're screwed. (She laughs)

Walker: We definitely can't go past 1980.

Kyle Cavaness: Can we be specific? Aug. 14, 1970.

Alex Kater: Yeah, I'm thinking right around the end of [the Vietnam War.]

Daily 49er: What sort of messages do you guys try and emit to your audiences through your music?

Acosta: We generally try and let the music speak for itself, and we try not to stick to one genre in particular. When you listen to us, you need to have an open mind; to think out of the ordinary.

Daily 49er: In a city that seems to produce more musical talent then non polluted air, what do you think sets you apart from other bands?

Walker: Mainly energy.

Kater: And dynamics. We have a lot of changes in tempo and time signatures that are out of the ordinary. We can take an odd time signature and make it groovy. There's just an indestructible beat that we're chasing all the time, and we try and find a groove that speaks to people. We try and make music that isn't generally one flavor or color, music that travels, that has a vision, and is something that other music can't reach.

The Vespertines play every Monday night at Harvelle's (201 E. Broadway) in downtown Long Beach. For more information about the Vespertines, visit facebook.com/thevespertines

Justine Goldsmith | Daily 49er

The Vespertines perform at Harvelle's on Monday evening.

Campus Calendar

Feb. 16

Student art galleries
The **art department** presents **sculpture, ceramics and painting group exhibitions** from **noon to 5 p.m.** The student art galleries are located in the **FA2 and FA3.** Admission is **free.**

'Lou Reed, Metal Machine Trio'
The **University Art Museum** presents **"Lou Reed, Metal Machine Trio: The Creation of the Universe"** from **noon to 5 p.m.** Admission is **free** for students, **$4** for general.

'Static Noise'
The **University Art Museum** presents **"Static Noise: The Photographs of Rhona Bitner"** from **noon to 5 p.m.** Admission is **free** for students, **$4** for general.

Contemporary Dance Concert
The **Department of Dance** presents the **Spring 2012 Contemporary Dance Concert** at **8 p.m.** in the **Martha B. Knoebel Dance Theater.** Tickets are **$16** for students and **$20** for general admission.

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'Niners gear up for Creighton Bluejays

LBSU will travel to Omaha to take on Doug McDermott and the Bluejays.

By Daneil Van Hoosier
Assistant Sports Editor

The Long Beach State men's basketball team will take its 12-game winning streak and hopes of an NCAA at-large bid into Omaha, Neb. when it takes on Creighton University on Saturday.

The 'Niners (19-6, 12-0 Big West Conference) will play its final non-conference game of the regular season against the Bluejays (22-5, 12-4 Missouri Valley Conference) on Saturday at 7 p.m. The game will be televised nationally on ESPN2.

When the match-up was announced three weeks ago, Creighton was the No.13-ranked team in the country, but has since dropped from the polls after a three-game skid.

LBSU head coach Dan Monson said despite the Jay's losing streak, the team is still very talented and the Beach will have to continue improving and working on itself in order to be successful.

"We cannot get caught up in who we're playing, we've got to get caught up in how we're playing."

Monson added: "I think mentally we've got to continue to get better. We did not execute in the half-court sets as well as we wanted to this weekend. As soon as we got ahead our intensity and focus drifted, and that can't happen in the games coming up."

LBSU will need to contain Creighton's dynamic offense, which ranks first in the nation in field goal percentage (.511), third in assists (18.4 per game) and tenth in scoring (79.9 points per game).

The Jays are led by sophomore forward Doug McDermott, who ranks third in the country in scoring, averaging 22.7 points per game. McDermott leads Creighton in rebounding as well, averaging 8.1 per contest.

The John R. Wooden Award candidate is also a proficient 3-point shooter for a 6-foot-7 forward. He is shooting 50 percent (44 of 88) from behind the arc on the season.

The Beach will look to the veteran leadership of reigning Big West player of the week Casper Ware, who poured in a career-high 38 points in a 76-67 victory over the University of Pacific on Thursday.

The senior guard followed up the performance with a record-setting night in Saturday's win over UC Davis. Ware delivered two assists in the contest, bringing his career total to 509 and making him the all-time leader in that category at LBSU. He passed Billy Walker, who played for the 49ers from 1984-1988.

Ware said in order to beat Creighton, the team must focus on playing well from start to finish without becoming complacent, while addressing "the focus level and putting in the whole 40 minutes."

Ware added: "Sometimes we get away with playing half the game or 30 minutes. We are not stopping teams that we should and keeping them under 60 (points). That is our goal before every game."

After the matchup with Creighton, the Beach returns home for three straight games at the Pyramid, beginning with Big West-rival UC Santa Barbara on Wednesday at 8 p.m.

Steven Carcano | Daily 49er

Larry Anderson (21), Casper Ware (22) and Mike Caffey (5) need to have stellar games to upset the 'Jays.

Home	Away
Record: 9-0	Record: 8-5
Points per game: 75.6	Points per game: 76.7
FG%: 47.7	FG%: 48.3
Rebounds per game: 33.5	Rebounds per game: 34.8
Assists per game: 14	Assists per game 14.8

The Long Beach State men's basketball team will play its 14th road game of the season against Creighton on Saturday. The 'Niners record shows that although they play good basketball on the road, tougher competition and raucous away crowds have caused them to drop a few games.

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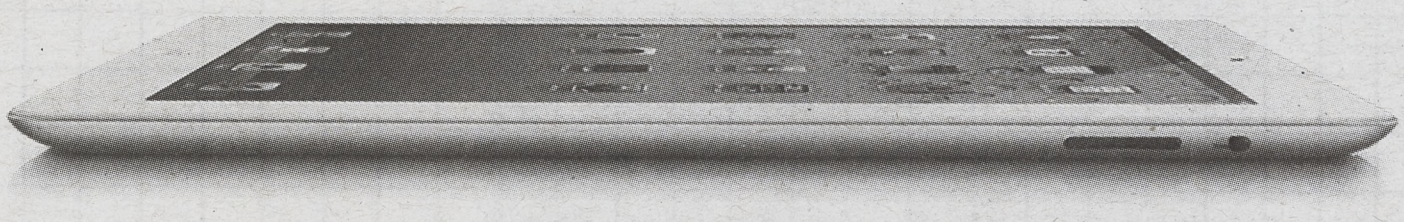

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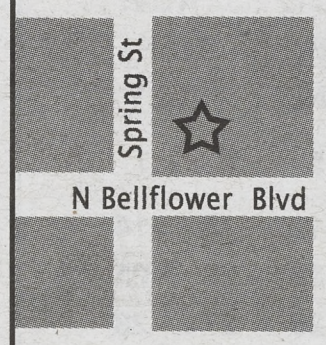
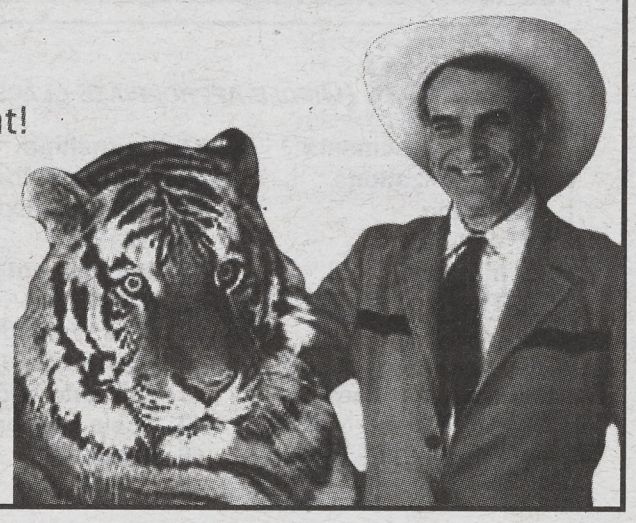
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